Downsizing Home Checklist

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Use this checklist to keep your downsizing move on track. Most families need six to eight weeks; if you have less time, start with Phase 2 and the "quickly" tips above.

Phase 1 · 6-8 weeks before

- [ ] Get the floor plan and measurements of your new home, including doorways
- [ ] Decide which large furniture will fit and where it will go
- [ ] Book your downsizing consultation and moving date
- [ ] Start sorting in the least-used spaces: garage, attic, basement, guest rooms

Phase 2 · 4-6 weeks before

- [ ] Sort room by room into keep, donate, sell, gift, discard and store
- [ ] Give family members a deadline to claim heirlooms
- [ ] List larger items for sale or contact an estate sale company
- [ ] Have antiques, art or collections appraised
- [ ] Reserve storage if you need it

Phase 3 · 1-3 weeks before

- [ ] Confirm donation pick-ups and junk removal
- [ ] Pack non-essential items and label each box by its room in the new home
- [ ] Change your address with USPS, banks, doctors and subscriptions
- [ ] Arrange utility transfers
- [ ] Pack an "open first" box

Phase 4 · Moving day and first week

- [ ] Walk the crew through the floor plan
- [ ] Confirm what goes to storage, donation and family
- [ ] Unpack the bedroom, bathroom and kitchen first
- [ ] Set a date to review anything in storage